

REMARKS

In the present Amendment, independent Claim 6 has been amended to recite that the pesticidal active ingredient-containing granule is to be coated in an inclined pan rolling granulator. In addition, Claim 22 directed to a granular pesticidal composition coated with the polyurethane resin obtained by the method of Claim 6 has been added. Support for the amendment to Claim 6 and new Claim 22 is found, for example, in Production Examples 1-7 of the present application.

No new matter has been added, and entry of the Amendment is requested. Upon entry, Claims 1-3, 5-7, 10, 11, 13 and 19-21 will be pending.

In Paragraph No. 3, on page 2 of the Office Action, Claims 1-3, 5-7, 10, 11, 13 and 19-21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tocher (WO 91/10362) in view of Burger et al. (WO 93/04017) (hereinafter "Burger") and Kogler et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,772,490) (hereinafter "Kogler").

Applicants traverse and request the Examiner to reconsider and withdraw the rejection in view of the following remarks and the amendments to the claims.

The claimed method for manufacturing a granular pesticidal composition coated with a polyurethane resin is patentable over Tocher, Burger and Kogler, at least because Tocher, Burger and Kogler fail to disclose or suggest the use of an inclined pan type rolling granulator for coating a pesticidal granule. Indeed, one of ordinary skill in the art in possession of the teachings of Tocher, Burger and Kogler would not have had any reason to arrive at the claimed method for manufacturing a granular pesticidal composition using an included pan type rolling granulator for coating a pesticidal granule.

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
U.S. Application No. 08/987,380 (Q48500)

In view of the above, Applicants request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of the present claims based on Tocker, Burger and Kogler.

Reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited.

If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the local, Washington, D.C., telephone number listed below.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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